

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/795,981

Examiner

Thoi V. Duong

Applicant(s)

NAGATA ET AL.

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed January 19, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) ~~is~~ are 9-15, 28, 35-37 and 42-47.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/520,609.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) None
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the Amendment filed January 19, 2007.

Accordingly, claims 9, 12, 14, 35 and 42 were amended, claims 1-8, 16-27, 29-34 and 38-41 were cancelled, and new claims 43-47 were added. Currently, claims 9-15, 28, 35-37 and 42-47 are pending in this application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Joseph A. Rhoa (Reg. No. 37,515) on 02/12/2007.

In the claims:

Claim 9: in line 16, after "wherein", delete "a given" and insert --the--.

Claim 12: in line 11, after "wherein", delete "a given" and insert --the--.

Claim 14: in line 12, after "wherein", delete "a given" and insert --the--.

Claim 35: in line 20, after "wherein", delete "a given" and insert --the--.

Claim 42: in line 11, after "wherein", delete "a given" and insert --the--.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 9-15, 28, 35-37 and 42-47 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record fairly suggests or shows all of the limitations as claimed. Specifically,

Re claims 9, 12, 14, 35 and 42, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, an active matrix substrate comprising a storage capacitor common line disposed parallel to the signal line so as to be electrically connected to the storage capacitor electrode, the storage capacitor common line extending across a plurality of pixels, wherein storage capacitance is provided between the pixel electrode and the storage capacitor electrode, the scanning line and the storage capacitor electrode are fabricated from a same material in a single patterning; and wherein the storage capacitor electrode and the storage capacitor common line are patterned in different steps so as to have an insulating film provided partially therebetween, and wherein a given storage capacitor electrode does not extend across a plurality of different pixels.

The most relevant reference, US 6,456,350 B1 to Ashizawa et al. (Ashizawa), fails to disclose or suggest that a given storage capacitor electrode does not extend across a plurality of different pixels. As shown in Figs. 2 and 3C, Ashizawa discloses a storage capacitor common line CC3 disposed parallel to the signal line DL so as to be electrically connected to the storage capacitor electrode CL, the storage capacitor common line extending across a plurality of pixels PX (Figs. 2 and 3C), wherein storage capacitance is provided between the pixel electrode PX and the storage capacitor electrode CL (col. 6, lines 44-48), the scanning line GL and the storage capacitor electrode CL are fabricated from a same material in a single patterning (col. 5, lines 30-33); and wherein the storage capacitor electrode CL and the storage capacitor common

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line CC3 are patterned in different steps so as to have an insulating film PAS1 provided partially therebetween (Fig. 3C and col. 6, lines 23-26).

However, the storage capacitor electrode CL extends across a plurality of different pixels.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thoi V. Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms, can be reached at (571) 272-1787.

Thoi V. Duong



02/12/2007